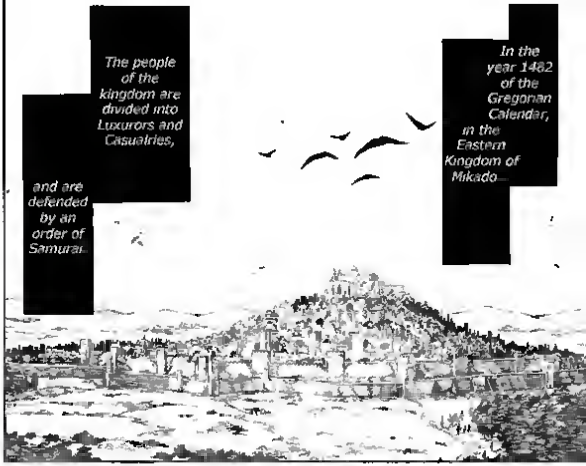
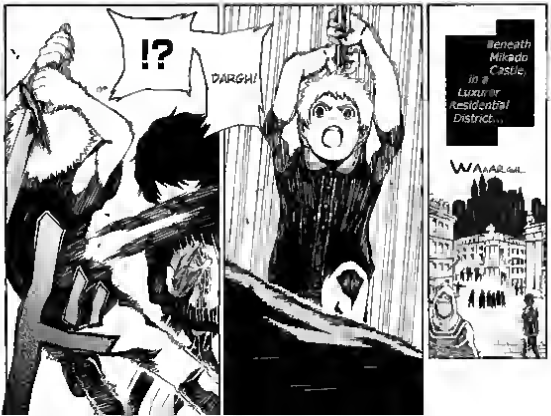
VJ創刊20周年記念作品!!!
彼は手にする…世界を変える力を…
彼は選ぶ…
秩序か混沌か…
人類の未来を決める戦いが始まる…!!
真・女神転生IV
Persona
第1話 Boy meets Darkness
Vol. 01
原画 三浦征陸
キャラクター原案 金子一馬(ATLUS)
脚本 山井一千(ATLUS)

WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG,
I'D OFTEN HAVE THE SAME DREAM.
AND THEN, AT THE END WITHOUT FAIL,
IT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN AN UNTOUCHED SPACE
ONE WHERE IT SEEMED AS IF NOTHING HAD EVER EXISTED
A SINGLE SAMURAI WOULD APPEAR,
ONE WHOSE FACE AND NAME I DID NOT KNOW—


In the year 1482 of the Gregorian Calendar, in the Eastern Kingdom of Mikado...
The people of the kingdom are divided into Luxurors and Casualties,
and are defended by an order of Samurai.


!?
DARGH!
Beneath Mikado Castle, in a Luxurior Residential District...
WAARGH...

BE A BIT MORE LENIENT, JONATHAN!
JONATHAN'S VICTORIOUS AGAIN!
YOWCH!
THERE IS NO ALLOWANCE FOR SUCH THINGS AS LENIENCY!
DON'T SPOUT SUCH ABSURDITIES! WE ARE SWORD FIGHTING!
NOW JUST A MINUTE! HE IS MY—
HE'S SO GALLANT— JONATHAN

NI... NICOLA!
NO, THIS IS—
ABUSING THE WEAK AGAIN?
YOUNG SIR!
YOU WILL BE PUNISHED ONCE WE RETURN HOME!
WHY ALWAYS THIS MANNER OF MISCHIEF?
N— NO, THIS ISN'T WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
YOU'RE LOUD AS EVER, NICOLA.
WON'T THAT GET YOU MORE WRINKLES?
How rude!
SINCE YOU SAID SUCH
WE WILL NOT GO FOR OUR PICNIC AT LAKE MIKADO,
I WILL NOT READ YOU THE MYTHOLOGIES,
AND I WILL NOT BAKE YOU MY SPECIALLY-MADE COOKIES!

IN PLACE OF MY PARENTS WHO DO NOT RETURN HOME DUE TO THEIR WORK
SHE HAS CARED FOR ME SINCE I WAS BORN.
NICOLA IS THE WET NURSE STAYING WITH US.
Hahaha...
Uruh... Forgive me, Nicola!
THE ONE FOR WHOM I HARBOURED MY FIRST PANG OF LOVE.
TO ME, SHE WAS A PARENT, A FRIEND, AND—
SOON, I WILL BECOME A SAMURAI!
I CAN ILL-AFFORD TO MISS ANY TRAINING!
NOW THEN, SINCE WE'VE THE OPPORTUNITY, YOUNG MASTER,
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM SWORD FIGHTING
EH...?
I WILL NOT!

Wait
Pardon me, sir!
How dare... These are my family's...!
I will be a powerful samurai...
They fell all manners of villain!
Ack.
A samurai?
Yes.
You insolent...!
Young master!
...F-forgive us!
Grant us your pardo-
You're a luxuror gentleman, not you...
...?

ARE NOT WELL-MANNERED
WHAT?
THIS THOUGHT BOAT...
WHAT TO DO, SAMURAI?
INSO-LENT?
YOU RAISE YOUR HAND AGAINST A CHILD FOR WHATEVER REASON,
AND SPEAK OF ETIQUETTE ?
...
Y...
YOU'D BEST BE MORE MINDFUL!

ER, UM, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WE ARE SAMURAI.
OUR DUTY IS TO DEFEND THE PEOPLE.
YOU NEED NOT THANK ME.

SOMEDAY I WOULD BECOME SO SPLENDID A SAMURAI—
IT WAS ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT

HM?
...!

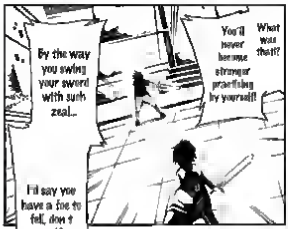
VERY WELL...
I WONDER HOW STRONG HE IS.
HE HAS A BLADE...
WHO IS THAT ? I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM
OH MY HE'S SNEAKING IN
INTO THE CASTLE?
WHERE DID HE GO?
THIS IS THE.
!
AQUILA STATUE PLAZA

...Yes.
HE'S SWORD TRAINING
JUDGING BY HIS CLOTHING HE'S A CASUALRY

I'M THE STRONGEST TROLL! HERE I CAN TEACH YOU MANY THINGS
HOW ABOUT IT—
YOU APPEAR TO HAVE STRENGTH
BUT YOUR MOVEMENTS ARE CHAOTIC

YOU SHOULD RELAX
AND THEN CONSERVE YOUR MOVEMENTS

Wh-
LUXUROR PRAT...
YOU'RE AN ANNOYANCE AWAY WITH YOU


What was that!?
You'll never become stronger practising by yourself!
By the way you swing your sword with such zeal...
I'll say you have a flair to fall, don't you!?
...!

WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT?
ENOUGH!

BUT COME NOW, IT'S JUST ONE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN'S LEADERS!
THAT'S A CURIOUS WAY TO PUT IT
?
'TIS NO CONCERN OF YOURS
YOU'D NEVER BELIEVE IT IF I TOLD YOU AT ANY RATE

ARE DEMONS ...!
Hm...
QUIET
WHAT I WANT TO KILL

W...
Well...
WHAT'S SO AMUSING?

Ah ha ha ha ha ha ha!
!
WOULD YOU JUST—
YOU'RE BEING A BOTHER, SO.

DEMONS ? THE CREATURES FOUND IN FAIRY-STORIES?
YOU'RE SO INTENT ON PRACTICING ON YOUR OWN YOU'D INVENT SUCH A LIE?
YOU'RE AN ODD ONE!

...I KNOW
ONES SUCH AS YOU, WHO ARE MOUTHY TO THE LAST...
THE ONLY THING THAT WILL SILENCE YOU

IS BRUTE FORCE!
...HUH?

IT WILL BE THE SAME NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE DO THIS.
W-WAIT A MOMENT!
I WAS CAUGHT OFF-GUARD!
ONCE MORE!
EVEN ADULTS HAD NEVER BESTED ME SO EASILY FOR ME,
!!!
I WILL ABSOLUTELY BECOME A SAMURAI...
!!!
MY MEETING WITH HIM WAS A SHOCK
I CANNOT LOSE THIS WAY
TO ONE SO CLOSE IN AGE TO ME!
ONCE MORE!

QUITE THE COINCIDENCE
JONA-THAN
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I AM ASUMA
I, TOO, AIM TO BECOME A SAMURAI...!
WHAT IS THIS ?
ALL THE MORE REASON I CANNOT LOSE!
ATTENTION, PRENTICE SAMURAI!
At the same time, elsewhere—
おぉおぉ

'IN THE UNDER-GROUND CAVERN OF NARAKU!
HENCE-FORTH, YOU SHALL BEGIN YOUR TRAINING
YES!
WE PRAY FOR YOUR GOOD FORTUNE!
QUITE THE PRESSURE...
THE FAMOUS SIR HOPE, NEXT COMMANDER OF THE SAMURAI, IS OUR INSTRUCTOR?
THAT IN OUR KINGDOM THEY APPEAR, WITHOUT WARNING...
I'D NO INKLING— OF WHAT A SAMURAI'S TRUE DUTY WAS
NO NO NO! WHAT'S MORE SUR-PRISING IS THE NATURE OF OUR DUTY!
VERY SURPRISING TO THINK SUCH A PLACE EXISTS IN MIKADO

YES!
RIGHT THEN!
SHOW THEM YOUR STRENGTH!
DEMONS,
WHAT IS THIS FORE-BODING PRES-ENCE...?
THEY SHOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH ENEMIES OF THIS CALIBER.
BUT I FEEL SOME-THING NEARBY
...
FEH-U-PS IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION.
...
WHOM WE STRIKE DOWN ...!
オ

— YOUNG MASTER, YOU'VE BEEN STAYING UP FAST YOUR BEDTIME HAVEN'T YOU?
Huh?
IT'S PLAIN TO SEE FROM THE BAGS UNDER YOUR EYES
N... No, hahaha!

PLEASE STOP YOUR WICKED WAYS
YOU MUST DO DECENT DEEDS

ASUMA WAS STRONG.
AND I CONTINUED TO LOSE HUNDREDS OF TIMES.
IT MORTIFIED ME, SO I CONTINUED TO TRAVEL TO THE PLAZA EVERY NIGHT.
AND THEN, LITTLE BY LITTLE,
WE BEGAN TO OPEN OUR HEARTS TO ONE ANOTHER—
... YOU'RE QUITE THE STUBBORN ONE.

WHAT OF YOUR PARENTS, ASUMA?
BOTH MY PARENTS ARE IN THE MONASTERY, SO THEY'RE NEVER HOME.
ARREN'T YOUR PARENTS WORRIED ABOUT YOU?
YOU COME OUT HERE EVERY NIGHT.

...THEY WERE BOTH
KILLED.
BY DEMONS...!

ASUMA?
I'M ALWAYS THINKING ON IT
IF HOW PEOPLE LIKE MY GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER, WHO CARE FOR ME
IF THEY WERE KILLED BY DEMONS THAT'S WHAT I PONDER.

DID YOU KNOW?
THE MAN THIS STATUE IS BASED OFF OF AQUILA,
APPARENTLY HIS PARENTS WERE KILLED IN HIS CHILDHOOD BY DEMONS

IN MY CASE,
I HAVE IMPORTANT PEOPLE I WANT TO DEFEND.
THAT IS WHY
I WANT TO KILL DEMONS ...!
ASUMA... THESE DEMONS YOU SPEAK OF... ARE THEY...?
...?
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU.
YOUNG MAS TER!
!!
Oh no...!

No, Nicola... this is, er...
IS THIS THE REASON YOU'VE BEEN STAYING UP LATE!?

NOT FORCEFUL ENOUGH, EH?
DAMN IT
CAN WE TAKE THIS OUTSIDE THE CASTLE?
NOW NOW
YOU'VE BEEN DELIBERATELY LEAVING HOME WHILE I SLEPT, HAVEN'T YOU!?

HEY... FINALLY GOT OUT.
NARAKU'S A REAL MA...
UM.. UM...!?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
?
!!!
JUST THIS ONCE...
WE'LL OVERLOOK THAT THESE BOYS SNUCK INTO THE CASTLE.
LISTEN, WE'VE GOTTEN REPORT OF A PARTICULARLY FEROCIOUS DEMON OUT OF NARAKU.
hey

HM
HM
HM
PRETTY BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH
IF YOU MAKE IT UP TOP, OUT HERE, AND DON'T GO CRAZY... !
!!?
Fallen
Amy

WH...?
This is a demon...!
hiq hiq hiq...
There's no doubt about it...
The smell of...
DAMN IT!
HOW DID THIS ONE GET UP TOP!?
...!
WE'VE FAILED..!
ズル...
ズル...
ズル...

I KNEW BEING OUT HERE, UP TOP, WOULD FEEL GOOD!
PRETTY GOOD!
WOO HA HA HA HA!
JONA-THAN!
AH...
WA AA AA AH!
NOW, THEN!
I STILL HAVEN'T GONE ALL OUT!

HOO! YOU STOPPED MY SPEAR!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU, MISSY!
ズル…
...YOUNG MASTER...
HURRY...
RUN...

NICOLA...!
IT CAN'T. NICOLA...
ポロポロ
ポロ...
WAA AA AA AA AA AGH!
WAD-DVP
DAMN
YO OO OO OU...
!!?
ASUMA!
URGH!

DAMN IT...! I STILL...
CAN'T DEFEND ANYONE...!
WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED TO HER...
YOU KNEW THAT LADY?
UGUH... CAN'T BREATHE...
I MUST HURRY AND GET NICOLA TREATMENT.
LOOK, I'LL SEND YOU ON YOUR WAY SOON, TOO, OKAY?
WOO HA HA HA HA!
DAMN...
DAMN IT...
DAMN IT...!

WHAT THE DEVIL...?
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU WANT...?
WHERE'D YOU COME FROM!?
WHERE'S THIS SENSATION COMING...?
...THAT'S RIGHT.
THIS FEELING IS...
THE ONE FROM THAT DREAM I ALWAYS HAVE...

FOR THE TIME BEING...!
I'LL RETREAT
I'LL KILL YOU...
I STILL CANNOT CLEARLY COMPREHEND WHAT HAD OCCURRED.
...MY CONSCIOUSNESS A HAZE THEN,
WHO RESCUED US THEN
NO, GOD,
I'M SURE IT WAS KING AQUILA
ASUMA
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? HANG ON—
M.C.
HOY, JONATHAN...!
JONATHAN...
WHAT THE DEVIL WAS THAT...?

HURTS...
LIKE THIS...
I... DIDN'T KNOW...
THAT BEING UNABLE TO PROTECT SOMEONE SPECIAL...

ポト ポト
THAT IT HURTS THIS WAY...!
ASUMA ...!
ポト

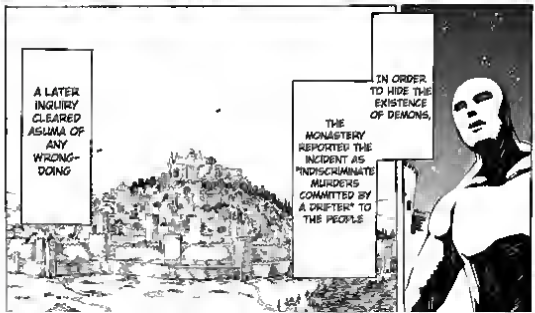
WHAT THE DEVIL HAPPENED!?
IS THERE A REASON FOR ALL THE NOISE...?
HOY, WHERE'S THE GUARD GONE OFF TO!?

WH-
WHAT IS ALL OF THIS!?
...JONATHAN...

ARREST HIM.
THE HANDIWORK OF DEMONS
THIS IS CLEARLY
THAT CASUALRY BRAT, THERE!
THE LOW-BLOOD MUST HAVE SUMMONED A DEMON!
THE DEVIL'S THE MATTER ...!?
LET ME GO!
SETTLE YOURSELF!
DID THE BRAT JUST CALL TO BE LET GO!?
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG, EVERY-ONE!
ASUMA IS—

JONA-THAN!
WE ARE STILL TOO WEAK!
FAR TOO WEAK!
AS WE ARE NOW, WE COULDN'T PROTECT ANYONE...!
SO, BECOME STRONGER!

WE SHALL BECOME STRONGER TOGETHER!
JONA-THAN!


A LATER INQUIRY CLEARED ASUMA OF ANY WRONG-DOING
THE MONASTERY REPORTED THE INCIDENT AS "INDISCRIMINATE MURDERS COMMITTED BY A DRIFTER" TO THE PEOPLE
IN ORDER TO HIDE THE EXISTENCE OF DEMONS,

ASUMA
WE'RE FORBIDDEN FROM MEETING AGAIN.
THE AFFAIR DEEPENED DISTRUST BETWEEN CASUALRIES AND LUXURORS
AND DUE TO OUR CIRCUM-STANCES, ASUMA AND I
AND NOW...
I AM HERE ONCE MORE
TOGETHER WE'LL BECOME STRON-GER..!
TO-GETH-ER...
THAT'S RIGHT...
The year 1492 of the Grego-rian Calen-dar...
BEGIN THE GAUNTLET RITE!
NOW, LET US SELECT SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR THE SAMURAI!
10 years later

認証完了
ACCORDINGLY, THIS YOUNG MAN IS RECOGNIZED AS A SAMURAI!
MYSTIC SCRIPT HAS APPEARED ON THE GAUNTLET!
WOW! QUITE THE MAN!
ASU-MA...
BUT
PEOPLE'S HEARTS CHANGE GIVEN ENOUGH TIME
HAS IT BEEN 10 YEARS SINCE THEN?
AND THE RITE IS ALMOST OVER
I CAN'T SEE HIM

☆ The world stirs once more ...!
—YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED FROM BEING SO LATE
HEHEH MY APOLOGIES
YES, JUST HURRY NOW!
YOUR PARDON! I OVERSLEPT AND SO I COULD NOT BE ON TIME
HASN'T DULLED?
I TRUST YOUR SWORD-ARM
QUITE THE TALKER, AREN'T YOU?
..HEH. PER USUAL.
end